

RICH WOMAN DIED GRIEVING FOR ABSENT SON

Mother of Leslie Perry
Ward Called to Him
with Last Breath.

LOUIS FULLER'S FRIEND.

Young Man Whose Birth Sec-
ret Was Revealed by Plot
His Chum.

VANISHED AT MIDNIGHT.

Disappeared After Chat in Which
He Promised to Reform
Wild Ways.

Leslie Perry Ward, only son of Dr. Leslie D. Ward, first vice-president of the Prudential Life Insurance Company, has been missing from his home, No. 108 Broad street, Newark, for almost two weeks. In the meantime, his mother, Mrs. Minnie Ward, has died, and her funeral will take place to-day, in all probability, in the absence of her missing son.

Ward is a friend of Louis Fuller, the complainant against young Hawkins, whose attempt at blackmail revealed the secret of Fuller's birth and adoption.

Leslie Perry Ward, is about twenty-five years of age. Ever since he left college, said his friends to-day, he has been a source of anxiety to his parents. His father's influence, as one of the foremost life insurance men of this country, secured the youth a score of good positions, but every post he has filled young Ward seems to have vacated suddenly.

His present disappearance is not his first. Two years ago a general alarm was sent out for him, and he was discovered in Boston, after three weeks' absence from home.

Grieved to Her Death.

Worry over her only son's whereabouts, it was said at the late Mrs. Ward's home to-day, undoubtedly hastened her death. Mrs. Ward, who was a prominent member of the South Park Presbyterian Church, of Newark, and a well-known clubwoman of New York, had suffered for a long time with Bright's disease. Last Monday her complaint reached an acute stage and, although the best doctors of New York were called to the family mansion in Newark, Mrs. Ward failed to rally from her fatal attack and died on Wednesday last. Her last words on her deathbed were for her son.

"Why does he not come to his mother?" she repeated again and again. Almost distraught by grief, Dr. Ward employed private detectives all over the country to search for his son. The trail led to Boston, Philadelphia and the Tenderloin of New York. A woman friend of the young man in Boston declared last night that she had not seen Ward for three months. In New York and Philadelphia his cronies told the same story. Young Ward's people hesitate to think him the victim of foul play, but the circumstances of his disappearance leave little room for any other theory.

Told of His Hopes.

The family returned two weeks ago from Virginia, where they had been spending several weeks on Dr. Ward's estates. The trip was made partly for the benefit of Mrs. Ward's health and in the hope of breaking off young Ward's undesirable associations. So far as the latter purpose was concerned it seemed to have been successful. Mrs. Ward, too, seemed benefited. Two weeks ago to-day the family returned to Newark.

On the Sunday following their return the Wards attended church service. In the evening friends dropped in for a chat and after they left young Ward sat

BRIDE TO BE, MRS. LONGWORTH'S FRIEND



Miss Mignon Critten

holding his mother's hand for some time and talking earnestly about his hopes for the future. Shortly before midnight mother and son parted for the night, and young Leslie, as they said good night, declared his intention of taking a stroll. He kissed his mother and went out, whistling a cheerful tune.

This was the last seen of him. On Monday his failing to appear at breakfast worried his mother, and her anxiety increased as the day wore on till a relapse of the illness set in. The next day she had to take to her bed. A week later she died, calling for her absent son with her last breath.

Ward at the time he disappeared, it is said, had about \$400, his monthly allowance.

Secret Hunt Unsuccessful.

The utmost secrecy has been observed in the hunt for young Ward, as it was hoped to find him without publicity, before his mother's funeral. Now, however, it is feared that when the funeral cortege starts for Mount Pleasant cemetery the only son of the dead woman will not be present.

Dr. Leslie D. Ward was seen at his residence to-day by an Evening World reporter.

"We have received no word of my son's whereabouts," he said in a voice broken by grief. "But we are looking again, and hope that he will learn of his mother's death or that we shall find him in time for him to be present at the funeral."

Every resource we have availed ourselves of has failed to yield results. We have searched through friends, who know my son's haunts, and private detectives, every nook and corner of New York, Boston and Philadelphia.

My son was somewhat wild, but never bad-hearted. I am inclined to think his present absence is due to a mere boyish prank. I wish to God he knew that his mother was dead and had died with his name on her lips.

He would bring him home from the ends of the earth.

"He had plenty of money with him when he left home on Sunday last. I do not fear foul play. It is my belief he will turn up in Atlantic City or Philadelphia, where he had many friends. Acting on this belief, I have sent detectives to both places."

Young Ward was a well-known figure in Madison, N. J., where his father has a magnificent summer home. He was a great friend of Louis Fuller, and a frequent actor in the latter's amateur productions. The missing man is a nephew of United States Senator W. H. Dryden, and a half-brother, well met, where the Wards burn brightly and honest on Broadway.

MISS CRITTEN ANOTHER TAFT PARTY BRIDE

Staten Island Belle Was
Guest of Alice Roosevelt-
velt on Orient Trip.

An Easter wedding of interest to society circles in Manhattan and Washington will be that of Miss Mignon Critten, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. De Fries Critten, of Grymes Hill, Tompkinsville, Staten Island, and Congressman Sweeney Sherkey, of Kentucky. The ceremony will take place at the home of the bride's parents on April 21 at 4 P. M., and promise to be a brilliant affair.

The venerable Archdeacon George D. Johnson, of Christ Church, New Brighton, will officiate, assisted by Rev. Frank Crowder, rector.

Miss Critten has chosen her sister, Miss Madge Critten, as her only attendant.

The best man will be Henry Clifford Smith, of Louisville, and the ushers will be Samuel Bland and Avery Robinson, of Louisville, Ky.; Jack Lory, of Bears Spring, Tenn.; and Richard Ely, of Washington.

Following the ceremony there will be a reception and supper.

Among the notables who will attend the wedding will be Secretary Taft, Congressman and Mrs. Nicholas Longworth and Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt, wife of the President.

Representative Stacey was a member of the Taft party and it was while on the trip that he made the acquaintance of Miss Critten. The acquaintance ripened into love, with the result that before the trip had concluded he asked for her hand and they pledged their troth.

Miss Critten is a handsome young woman of the blond type, with striking features. She is prominent in Staten Island society and takes an active part in social affairs. She is an expert horsewoman, tennis player and enjoys all kinds of outdoor exercise. She is a singer of ability, being gifted with an excellent soprano voice, and is also a finished musician.

After the honeymoon Congressman Sherkey and his bride will reside in Louisville, Ky.

SPENT A MILLION, DIED POOR LODGER

Son Identifies Cheap Hotel
Roomer as Once Wealthy
J. G. Brunner.

The body of a man who was found dead at the Arlington lodging house, No. 533 First avenue, has been identified as that of Joseph G. Brunner, sixty years old, who had been an expressman and wealthy.

His son, Joseph J. Brunner, who lives at No. 54 Java street, Greenpoint, said that the old man had spent nearly a million dollars in his lifetime. It is thought that he had become estranged from his family some years ago, and he had not lived with them but occupied his poor quarters at the lodging-house for some time.

The cause of death was general breakdown from irregular habits. Dr. White, of Bellevue, was called in to see him and found him dead.

Brunner inherited considerable money and made more in an express business he conducted for about forty years on Third avenue between Twenty-sixth and Twenty-seventh streets. He got into stock speculation, it is said, and most of his means went that way.

He had lived at the lodging-house for about six months and was quiet and inoffensive. The son is the only one of his immediate family left.

DAUGHTER FINDS SUICIDE.

Despondency from Ill-Health
Causes Aldrich to Hang Himself.

HARTFORD, Conn., April 14.—Portia W. Aldrich, sixty years old, a well-known taxidermist committed suicide by hanging yesterday at his home, a despondency due to ill-health being given as the cause.

Aldrich's twelve-year-old daughter, Azariah, found his body hanging to a beam in the cellar and cut it down. He leaves a widow and daughter.

Causes Inquiry Into Sanity of Marquis



Marquess Townshend

LONDON, April 14.—A public hearing before Justice Vaughan Williams is to be held regarding the mental condition of the Marquis of Townshend, the dwarf husband of Gladys Bathurst, daughter of a noted barrister. The Marquis, it is said, has been held a prisoner by his wife. He is thirty-nine years old.

Late in February the news was published that the Marquis of Townshend was being restrained of his liberty by his wife and her father on the ground that he was of unsound mind. The Dowager Marchioness of Townshend asserted that her son was not insane, and entered upon a strenuous effort to secure his freedom.

Medical specialists engaged by her reported that, although ill, the Marquis had displayed no hallucinations or delusions, but that his voice and mannerisms "pointed to some arrest of development."

The Sutherland family asserted that the Marquis was perfectly rational except with regard to a friend whom he had known for sixteen years, and who, the Marquis said, had helped to save his estate from attacks from other quarters. This friend was once a clergyman.

The Townshend case has attracted wide attention. The Marquis some months ago suddenly disappeared from his habitual resorts and his friends were greatly mystified regarding his whereabouts. Then it became known that he had been certified as insane by the Lunacy Commissioners and had been placed under the control of his wife, who, it was charged by some persons, was keeping him virtually a prisoner in his West End home.

URGE MAYOR TO RUSH BLACKWELL'S BRIDGE

Citizens of Two Boroughs
Plan to Have Matter Pre-
sented to Him.

DELAY SEEMS CRIMINAL.

Samuel J. Bloomingdale Writes a
Long Letter in Favor of
Immediate Action.

A committee composed of representatives of the Manhattan and Queens organizations interested in the completion of Blackwell's Island Bridge met in Kenney's Hall, Sixtieth street and Third avenue, last night to consider arrangements for the conference which is to be held at 10:30 A. M. Mr. Samuel J. Bloomingdale, who has been energetically struggling to force progress on the bridge, was chosen as Chairman.

After the situation had been thoroughly discussed it was resolved that the committee should visit the Mayor tomorrow at 4 o'clock at No. 103 East Sixtieth street. It is the intention to present to him the grievances that the public are enduring through the stoppage of work on the bridge. These will be discussed and condensed so that they can be incorporated in a short, logical and businesslike printed statement, which will be handed to the Mayor by the persons to be selected as spokesmen of the delegation.

In this manner there will be no tedious repetitions, and the situation will be placed on record in such shape that the Mayor can deal with it in a businesslike way. Copies of this statement will be furnished to all the newspapers of Greater New York.

Wants Work Done Quickly.

Mr. Bloomingdale has had an interview with the Mayor and has been assured of His Honor's interest in the complaints about the bridge. Mr. Bloomingdale has put his views on record in a letter in which he says:

"I want to strongly urge that more energetic steps be taken looking toward the early completion of the bridge, which has drifted along for year to year in an apparently hazy, go-as-you-please manner, and while it is true that some progress has been made, it has been a painfully slow proceeding to a daily extent."

Let us with unswerving machinery and broader experience it should not take more than two or three months to complete a bridge from start to finish, whereas the Blackwell's Island Bridge will take from eight to ten years in the present rate."

Mr. Bloomingdale further calls attention to delay in proceeding for the condemnation of land for the bridge approach.

Let us understand that plans are completed to the point where the bridge will find grade, which is on the East side of Second avenue, between Fifty-fifth and Sixtieth streets," said Mr. Bloomingdale, "and a great deal of property will be taken up and completed at once."

Delay Seems Criminal.

Judge Joseph L. Green, of the City

CITIZENS DEMAND THAT GRAND JURY PROBE BRIDGE CONTRACT.

The following resolutions have been adopted by the Dutch Kills Public Improvement Association of Queens:

Whereas, Upon the appointment of Gustave Lindenthal, an engineer in the employ of the Pennsylvania Railroad, to the Commission of Bridges of the city of New York under the Low administration, the work upon the Blackwell's Island Bridge was delayed through change of plan to reduce the width of the bridge and through other methods of obstruction;

Whereas, Just previous to the expiration of the term of office of said Lindenthal as Bridge Commissioner he awarded the contract for the steel work for the bridge to the Pennsylvania Steel Company, a corporation owned and controlled largely by the same men as manage the Pennsylvania Railroad, such contract being for a bridge but eighty-six feet in width instead of ninety-one feet, as by the official decision, based upon expert testimony; and

Whereas, Progress upon the construction of the bridge has been so slow since the award of that contract as to cause a belief among many well-informed citizens that Bridge Commissioner Lindenthal was an emissary of the Pennsylvania Railroad during his term of office as Bridge Commissioner of the city of New York; therefore,

Resolved, That this organization believes it to be the duty of the Grand Jury of New York to investigate the agencies that placed said Lindenthal in the office of Bridge Commissioner and to place his best efforts to ascertain by what authority a contract was awarded for a bridge of less width than that authorized and to a corporation whose interests are, from transit associations, inimical to the construction of the Blackwell's Island Bridge;

Resolved, That the Grand Jury be requested to call for persons, papers and contracts touching upon the interests of the people in the construction of the Blackwell's Island Bridge and to ascertain if acts unlawful or fraudulent have been committed by any corporation, person or persons in connection with the construction of the bridge.

Court, writes: "As a taxpayer, with large real estate interests in Long Island City, I think that the delay in the construction of the Blackwell's Island Bridge is little short of criminal. No excuse has been advanced to show that the delay benefited the city or some interest, but certainly not those whose money has been invested in the good faith of the authorities to do the utmost toward demanding a rapid completion of the bridge."

John L. Streever, Secretary of the United Civic Association of the Borough of Queens, which embraces Long Island City, said last night, "I am writing Secretary Kenney, of the East Side Improvement Association, to interest to every part of Queens Borough as well as the East Side of Manhattan, to cause the movement of the bridge to be kept active by frequent meetings and strenuous efforts. You have our earnest and hearty cooperation."

As an indication of the state of public feeling in Queens Borough over the delay in the work on the bridge, the action of the Dutch Kills Public Improvement Association is indicated in a Grand Jury to investigate upon the bridge approach, the action of the Mayor, Low appointee, is pointed to the Grand Jury room.

Expect Mayor to Help.

"We feel that we have Mayor McClellan with us in this fight," said Secretary Kenney to an Evening World reporter. "While we agree with the present Bridge Commissioner that a strike of the iron workers has set up work since the first of the year, there ought to be some way around this difficulty. The appointment of a committee of three to condemn property for the bridge is the direct result of the strike, and we are not in the least in favor of the strike by the Evening World in our behalf."

Among the organizations to be represented in the "United Front" presented before the Mayor at the coming hearing are the East Side Improvement Association, the Nineteenth Ward Taxpayers' Association, the Dutch Kills Public Improvement Association, the Citizens' Association of Long Island City and the United Civic Association of Queens, with twenty-six sub-organizations.

CONFIDENCE MEN GOT
ROTHSCHILD'S \$500.

Proprietor of Hotel Majestic Has
Three Causes for Complaint
Now Instead of One.

It is really true that Jacob Rothschild, proprietor of the Hotel Majestic, paid some \$500 to keep the newspapers from printing unpleasant things about him. Mr. Rothschild admitted it, saying, "My imagination being excited by the newspapers, I was charged with violating the social code of propriety."

Let the newspapers that printed the fact, toward the suave person who got \$500 from him to keep his name out of the papers.

"I paid \$500," said Mr. Rothschild, "for members of the press to refrain from any unpleasant references to his members of the press. I don't just remember the form of contract, but it appears that there were many conditions. The person who understood the plan had influence with the charge of publicity."

Mr. Rothschild added that he had not been burning soft coal in the boilers of the hotel since the strike, and that he proved the fact in court. He declared that there had been no complaints from any one in the neighborhood and accused the policeman who preferred the charge of stupidity.

BIG FIRE IN MOBILE.

MOBILE, Ala., April 14.—A portion of Cleveland Brothers' Corn and Grist Mill in this city was destroyed by fire last night. The fire started in the mill and spread to the neighborhood and destroyed the mill and other buildings.

The loss aggregates \$50,000.

TOD SLOAN MUST BE OPERATED UPON

Court Hearing Postponed Be-
cause of Condition of
His Throat.

James Todhunter Sloan, late \$50,000 a year jockey to King Edward, was still too ill to undergo examination by Jacob Stiefel in supplementary proceedings, when the hearing was resumed to-day. Dr. Peter J. Gibbons of No. 38 East Thirty-fourth street said so in a certificate presented by Dan O'Reilly, attorney for Sloan for five years, and so Mr. Stiefel had to believe it.

The certificate said that the little man was suffering a severe throat trouble from excessive cigar smoking, and that no operation was performed upon his throat Wednesday. In fact, Sloan could only whisper.

So Mr. Stiefel put Mr. O'Reilly on the stand, with Sloan's permission, to find out what he knew about Sloan's ability to pay the judgment of \$4,283.75 obtained by Architect Henry D. Whipple for the balance due on Tod's \$10,700 house at Sheepshead Bay.

Mr. Stiefel had heard that in a suit for damages against the "Society for Encouragement," the Jockey Club of Paris, Sloan had won a judgment for \$50,000 damages for expelling him, and he wanted to find out what had become of the money. But O'Reilly said that although Sloan was represented by Maitre Labori, the Choix of France, the jury awarded only 50 centimes damages, or about 10 cents, American money.

There was a \$50,000 gold mine in California which Sloan had for sale one time, but Mr. Stiefel's inquiry developed that an Englishman owned that mine and had sent a letter authorizing Sloan to sell it. O'Reilly said he returned the letter to Sloan.

At this point the hearing was adjourned until April 25 to give Sloan's throat a chance to get well.

RELIGIOUS RIOTS IN RUSSIA.

WARSAW, Poland, April 14.—Religious riots have raged here throughout Holy Week, and a serious disturbance is feared on Easter Sunday. In a clash yesterday between orthodox Catholics and the Mariavite sect, several persons were killed and thirty rioters injured.

IS DISEASE A CRIME?

Not so very long ago, a popular magazine published a sensational article in which the writer asserted, in substance, that all disease should be regarded as a crime, and that the sufferer should be punished as such.

It is not difficult to see how such a notion might arise. The sufferer is the cause of much of the trouble of his family, and the result of the violation of certain of Nature's laws, which, if understood, would be followed, would result in the prevention of much of the sickness and suffering of humanity.

But to say that the sufferer should be regarded as a criminal, and that he should be punished as such, is a most unreasonable and intelligent individual as a result of the disease.

Thousands suffer from contagious and infectious diseases most innocently and unconsciously contracted. Other thousands suffer from diseases which are the result of heredity, and which are not the fault of the sufferer.

Therefore, the cause of which no medical man has yet been wise enough to forecast, and which cannot be prevented, should not be regarded as a crime, and the sufferer should not be punished as such.

On the other hand, if we think of the heavy burden of disease, such as malaria, bad air in overhauled factories, coal mines, and many other situations, and surely those who suffer therefrom should be regarded as criminals.

So far as disease is contracted or brought on by one's self from harmful excesses, overeating, intemperance, and other like indulgences, and debaucheries, we think, with our editor friend, that it should be regarded as a crime, and the sufferer should be punished as such.

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A Sensational Easter Offering!



SUNDAY WORLD WANT DIRECTOR

The price of many Easter Gifts can be saved if you will avoid dealing with narrow-minded employers, indolent workers, high-priced merchants, dictatorial landlords and choose your Positions, Workers, Investments, Homes, Bargains, etc., through to-morrow's Sunday World Want Directory.

The World Circulates Into More New York City Homes and Offices and Prints More "Want" Announcements than Any Other Morning and Sunday Newspaper on Earth.

FIGURE THIS OUT!

If, after a year's hard usage, a \$10,000 automobile will be worth but - \$5,000

And if \$10,000 be shrewdly invested in Real Estate that in another year may readily be sold for \$20,000

Which is the Best Investment?

For 1,000 REALTY BARGAINS SEE SUNDAY WORLD WANTS TO-DAY.